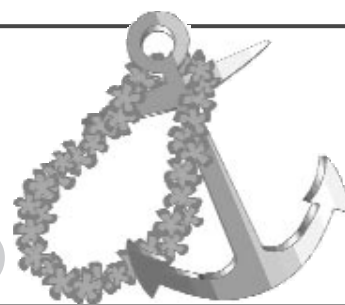


Hawaii Navy News



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Serving the "Best Homeport in the Navy"

October 29, 1999

IN BRIEF

Veterans Day ceremonies at the 'Mighty Mo', USS Arizona Visitor's Center, Punchbowl and Naval Station, Pearl Harbor

Members of the Navy Ohana are invited to celebrate Veterans Day at several sites in and around Pearl Harbor.

Aboard the Battleship Missouri Nov. 11, the keynote speaker is scheduled to be Rear Adm. John W. Townes III, Commander, Navy Region Hawaii. Other special guest speakers, veterans and special commemerations will also highlight the event.

The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 5 p.m. with the National Anthem, followed by a benediction. The ceremony concludes at sunset with 21-gun salute, evening colors, and taps. Call the USS Missouri Memorial Association at 545-2263.

The USS Arizona Memorial, Visitor's Center and Naval Station, Pearl Harbor will host special, historic boat tours of Ford Island on Veterans Day, 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Call the National Park Service for information at 422-2771.

Dept. of Veterans' Affairs and Commander, Marine Forces Pacific, host a Veterans' Day Ceremony at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl 9 a.m. Nov. 11.

The Hawaii Chapters, U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II, host a Veterans Day observance, Nov. 11, 11 a.m. at Submarine Memorial Park, Pearl Harbor.

Monthly statewide emergency alert system test

The State Civil Defense monthly test of sirens and the Emergency Alert System will be held Nov. 1 at 11:45 a.m.

The siren test sequence is the attention/alert signal, a steady 45-second tone on all sirens. This steady siren tone is used to alert the public on any emergency which poses or may pose a threat to life and property. When the siren is sounded in your area, turn on a radio or TV for emergency information and instructions broadcast by civil defense agencies. Civil defense emergency information and instructions are printed in the front section of the white pages of telephone directories in all counties.

December 7th reenlistment opportunities available

Sailors who wish to reenlist aboard the USS Arizona Memorial on December 7 should call Naval Station Port Operations at 473-1137 to reserve their place. Reenlistment parties should muster at the Arizona Memorial Visitor Center boat landing at 4 p.m. on Dec. 7 for a 4:10 p.m. departure. Uniform for Sailors is summer white; other services should wear equivalent dress uniform as directed by their parent command.

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USS O'Kane commissioned



PH2 Chad McNeeley photo

The newly-commissioned destroyer USS O'Kane's (DDG 77) crewmembers doubletime onto their ship to begin her new life in the fleet at the ship's commissioning ceremony last Saturday at Naval Station, Pearl Harbor. O'Kane is the second ship commissioned in Pearl Harbor - USS Lake Erie (CG 70) was the first. O'Kane, brings 318 new Sailors and 110 families to the Navy Hawaii Ohana. See A-4 and A-5 for commissioning photos.

Barbers Point BMC transfers ambulance service

By J01 David Nagle

NAVY REGION HAWAII

Sailors and family members who work or live in west Oahu will see a change in ambulance services starting next week.

Effective Nov. 1, Barbers Point Branch Medical Clinic will transfer ambulance services to the City and County of Honolulu. This will affect Sailors and families in the Kalaheo Community Development District (formerly Naval Air Station Barbers Point), Iroquois Point, Puuloa, and Naval Magazine Lualualei and West Loch.

According to Lt.j.g. Gregory Kainz, TRICARE action officer for Naval Medical Center Pearl Harbor, this means an improved level of care for patients.

"City and county ambulances are manned by paramedics, where ambulances from Barbers Point only had emergency medical technicians," Kainz said. "Paramedics can provide a higher level of care on scene."

If you live in the above areas and are in need of emergency ambulance services, call 911. The ambulance will assess and treat you on scene, and transport you to either St. Francis West Hospital or Tripler Army Medical Center, depending on the urgency of your condition.

"In the past, the Barbers Point ambulance would first take patients to the Barbers Point Clinic for evaluation, and then transport them to Tripler or someplace with a full emergency room," Kainz said. "The city and county service will transport patients directly to the major medical facility."

Although patients can expect some improvements in the quality of care, there is a cost.

"Active duty members won't have to pay for the service if they use the ser-

▼ See AMBULANCE, A-3

Navy College Office improving Sailors', Marines college degree opportunities

By J01 David Nagle

NAVY REGION HAWAII

As part of the Navy's increased emphasis on education, Navy Campus Pearl Harbor was renamed the Navy College Office.

A ribbon cutting ceremony at the Navy College Office last Thursday marked the first phase in enhancing voluntary education for Sailors.

"The Chief of Naval Operations wants to emphasize the opportunities for all Sailors to earn a college degree while on active duty," said Ann Choi, Hawaii's Navy College Office director. "Therefore, our programs and services have been enhanced."

While the Navy College Office still offers many of the services offered as Navy Campus, such as college briefings, tuition assistance, college credit by examination and the Academic Skills Learning Center (now called the Navy College Learning Center), it will also include two new components: the Sailor/Marine Corps American Council on Education Transcript (SMART), and the college degree "roadmap."

Sailors graduating from recruit training and evaluated class "A" and "C" schools will

receive a summary transcript, showing the American Council on Education's (ACE) recommendation for academic credit. While only 89 percent of Navy initial training and 36 percent of follow on training has been evaluated by ACE for recommended credit, the Navy College Office's goal is to have 100 percent of initial training and 76 percent of follow on training evaluated by October 2000.

SMART, a computer-generated transcript, will automatically record the recommended college credit Sailors earn for military training and work experience, based on ACE recommendations. Sailors can submit official copies of SMART to academic institutions of their choice.

Sailors can obtain an unofficial copy of their SMART transcript information through the Navy College Program website at www.navycollege.navy.mil.

Rating-specific roadmaps outline the ACE recommended college credit for the Navy training and work-related experience across a Navy career.

This map will assist Sailors in making informed choices on college degree programs. Rating roadmaps are also available on the

▼ See COLLEGE, A-6

Hawaii Sailors receive Navy League Sea Service awards at luncheon

By Terry Kojima

NAVY REGION HAWAII

Seventy proud men and women from the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard received the 1999 Navy League Sea Service Award at an awards luncheon at the Ala Moana Hotel Wednesday.

The Honolulu Council of the Navy League of the United States sponsors this program that recognizes superior role models that serve as an incentive for other young men and women to pursue a career in the Sea Services.

The highlight of the ceremony was the announcement of the Grand Award Recipients, selected by the Navy League Board of Judges from among the 70 Sea Service Award recipients.

Aviation Mechanic 1st Class Donna Marie Spaddy-Emory, Marine Aviation Logistic Support Element, Marine Corps Base Hawaii and Lt. David W. Schmidt, from Headquarters

Submarine Forces Pacific received this year's special honor as Grand Award Recipients.

Both Schmidt and Spaddy-Emory along with their spouses or a guest will receive a three day, two night Big Island holiday compliments of the Outrigger Waikaloa Beach Hotel which will include free round trip air transportation.

In addition to their outstanding professional military accomplishments, the award recipients are also actively involved with Hawaii Youth Programs, Red Cross, PTA's, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Disaster Team Volunteers, Easter Seals, church work, outreach programs, state clean-ups and a myriad of other activities that help others.

The Navy League is honored to award these fine men and women of the Armed Forces.

The Navy awardees include:

•Lt.j.g. Frank J. Bantell, USS Columbus (SSN 762)

•Torpedoman 1st Class Danilo P. Boyles, NAVMAG Lualualei

•Builder 2nd Class William T. Carter, NCTAMS PAC

•Lt. j.g. Charles C. Cowart, NAVMAG Lualualei

•Operations Specialist 1st Class Kevin M. Day, USS Chosin (CG 65)

•Sonarman 1st Class Shawn W. Devlin, USS Hopper (DDG 70)

•Lt. Jennifer K. Eaves, JICPAC Pearl Harbor

•Gas Turbine Systems Technician Thomas E. Eicks, USS Lake Erie (CG 70)

•Lt. Peter T. Ewald, FISC

•Lt.j.g. Charles R. Ferguson, USS Louisville (SSN 724)

•Machinist's Mate 1st Class Samuel L. Filson, USS Columbus (SSN 762)

•Aviations Electronics Technician 1st Class Robert J. Garces, Marine Aviation Logistic Support Element Kaneohe Bay

•Lt. Sean David Gass,

▼ See NAVY LEAGUE, A-8

By J01 David Nagle

NAVY REGION HAWAII

The Navy's newest guided-missile destroyer officially joined the U.S. Pacific Fleet as USS O'Kane (DDG 77) was commissioned into active naval service during a ceremony at Naval Station Pearl Harbor last Saturday.

The Arleigh Burke class destroyer, one of the most technologically advanced ships in the Navy, is named in honor of Rear Adm. Richard H. O'Kane (1911-1994), a native of Dover, N.H. O'Kane was awarded the Medal of Honor for his daring attacks on two Japanese convoys while in command of the World War II submarine USS Tang (SS 306) in 1944. After his submarine was sunk, the Japanese captured then-Cmdr. O'Kane, who spent the rest of the war in captivity.

Retired Navy Capt. Edward L. Beach, a personal friend of Rear Adm. O'Kane and national best-selling author, was the ceremony's principal speaker. Beach recalled a visit with O'Kane after the war in a

▼ See O'KANE, A-3

Ohana Conference 1998 issue booklets published

Compiled by JOCS

(SW)Phil Eggman

NAVY REGION HAWAII

The 1998 Ohana Conference "Issue Resolution" booklets, which contains the top quality of life issues identified in the November 1998 Ohana Conference, has been published and is being distributed to commands.

Some of the resolutions highlighted in the book include improved Personal Support Detachment (PSD) customer service, improved Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) communication, installation of traffic lights and water fountains, improved family housing communication, revised housing inspection standards and increases military involvement in Hawaii's public school education.

The Hawaii Navy Ohana Conference was established in 1995 as a means of communicating deckplate quality of life concerns to senior leadership and for senior leadership to demonstrate their commitment to improve Navy life in Hawaii.

Ohana delegates include active duty personnel, family members, reservists, civilian employees and retirees. Many of the Ohana successes come from ideas and concerns at the deckplate level.

The booklet can also be viewed on the Navy Region website: <http://www.hawaii.navy.mil>.

The next Ohana conference will be held in March 2000. A web-based Ohana survey is being created and will be available on the Navy Region website from January 21 through February 21, allowing personnel the opportunity to tell senior leadership how to make the "Best Homeport in the Navy" even better.

For more information contact Navy Region Hawaii Quality of Life Coordinator, Sharleen Proctor, at 474-4752.